

# The Times - Dispatch

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Entered January 25, 1906, at Richmond, Va., as second-class matter under act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1912.

## TUCKER FOR THE CABINET.

Not since John B. Floyd took office under President Buchanan in 1857, as Secretary of War, has Virginia had a place in a Democratic Cabinet.

From the foundation of this country till the rending of all ties by the anti-slavery agitation Virginia not only furnished Presidents, but supplied as well those close members of the official family on whom the Presidents relied for counsel and guidance and support.

It was George Washington, a Virginian, who appointed, first, Thomas Jefferson, and then Edmund Randolph, fellow Virginians, as Secretaries of State. And when the Whigs came in, it was Adams who turned again to Virginia and chose John Marshall as Secretary of State.

Jefferson chose Madison, and when Madison was made President, he chose James Monroe, and from the office of Secretary of State, Monroe himself advanced to the highest office in the gift of this country.

When John Tyler, a Virginian, was elected, he appointed Abel P. Upshur, of Virginia, as Secretary of State. That was in 1843, and no Virginian has sat in the office of Secretary of State since.

Nor has a Virginian ever held the office of Secretary of the Treasury. But John Marshall was Secretary of War under Adams, and Monroe was Secretary of War under Madison, and George Graham, a Virginian, served under Monroe; Thomas Barbour, of Virginia, served under John Quincy Adams, and the last of all, John B. Floyd held the office of Secretary of War under President Buchanan.

Only one Virginian has ever been Secretary of the Interior, and he was Alexander H. H. Stuart, who was appointed to office by Millard Fillmore in 1856.

In naval matters Virginia has been more fortunate. Abel P. Upshur was Secretary of the Navy under John Tyler; Thomas W. Gilmer and John Y. Mason also served under Tyler. John Y. Mason was Secretary of the Navy under Polk, and William B. Preston was appointed and served for the whole term of Zachary Taylor.

The office of Secretary of Agriculture has never been filled by a Virginian. But Grant appointed James W. Marshall, a Virginian, Postmaster-General in 1874.

In nothing did Virginia hold higher place than in the legal department. Edmund Randolph and Charles Lee were Attorneys-General under George Washington. William Wirt was Attorney-General under James Monroe and John Quincy Adams. John Y. Mason was Attorney-General under Polk in 1845. And there the catalogue ends.

To-day a Virginian comes back once more to the position of President of the people of the United States, and to Virginia he should and will look for a member of his official family.

No name has been more generally mentioned and more cordially received for a Cabinet position than that of the Hon. Harry St. George Tucker. His wide experience in political life, his familiarity with the usages of administration, his training as a lawyer, his studies in constitutional and international law, his high standing in Washington and throughout the whole country, have all marked him as an eminently wise choice for a Cabinet position.

President-elect Wilson could hardly follow a better example than that of Washington, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe, Tyler and Taylor—all Virginians—in choosing men from his own State to help him in the great and important task of making his administration a success. And The Times-Dispatch commends to President-elect Wilson the name of Harry St. George Tucker for a Cabinet office from Virginia.

## BRITISH ANNEXATION OF EGYPT.

In recent cable dispatches it was reported that as the result of the Balkan war and the reduction thereby of Turkey in Europe to impotency, Great Britain was preparing to declare a formal protectorate over Egypt and severance of the land of the Nile from Ottoman suzerainty. As to the immediate present there may be much or little in the report, there is probably little. As to the near future it does not admit of question that there is much.

From the day, soon after British occupation of Egypt, Lord Salisbury was interpolated as to when the government proposed withdrawal, and gave his historic, tentative and ambiguous answer, there has never been a reasonable doubt that the British were in Egypt to stay. His lordship, then Premier, left a loophole for staying, and that loophole has widened year by year. The measure of Britain's responsibility not to evacuate the country has increased pari passu

with the passage of time, until now, in the interest of her own safety and her prestige on the dark continent, and under her obligations to civilization and humanity, to say nothing of vast selfish economic and financial considerations, she could not "let go" if she would.

Whether or not Great Britain annexes Egypt immediately as her part of the spoils of the Balkan war, in "compensation" for any part she may play in bringing about a final settlement, or in lieu of concessions, annexation, as time runs in deciding the destiny of nations, is written for the not distant future in the book of fate of Egypt. And in truth, when all is said and done, annexation will simply be a fact for which existing Anglo-Egyptian relations have merely figured under an euphemistic name for the soothing of both Egypt and Turkey.

Formal consummation will only be on all fours with Austria-Hungary's formal absorption of Bosnia and Herzegovina, though on a larger scale and infinitely more defensible. It will be infinitely more justifiable, judged in the light of the lengths to which Great Britain has already gone in assuming the duty of "bearing the white man's burden" in Africa.

## WHY NOT A LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE?

The Governors that have been, the Governors that are and the Governors that will be are entitled to seats in the House of Governors, but what of the Governors that might be? Why is it that the poor Lieutenant-Governor left out of the proceedings? It is said that the President and Vice-President of the nation always entertain a profound antipathy for each other. The President regards the Vice-President as one who secretly hopes that he will be removed from this world, and the Vice-President looks upon the President as the only obstacle to the succession of the best possible man for the presidency. Perhaps the analogy is true of the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors, or those who take office in case of the death or election to the Senate of the Governor. Who ever saw a cheerful looking Lieutenant-Governor? They hover around the executive mansion with wistful gaze, melancholy statesmen to fame unknown. And the Governor realizes that his death is the only thing that can lighten the countenance of the Lieutenant-Governor and relieve his melancholia. The thought is not pleasant to the Governor.

Is that why the Lieutenant-Governors are left out of the conference? It is true that the Governors do not like to have the Vice-Governors hanging around, because they suggest death. Whatever the reason for his exclusion from the solemn convocation of the State chief magistrates, the "loot" is "not in it." From the absolute silence maintained as to his existence by the Governors' Conference, it must be concluded that it is gubernatorial bad form to mention the Lieutenant-Governor, just as it is to refer to death in the sick room. The fact is that the Vice-presidents of the States are even more obscure than the second in position in the national government. The Lieutenant-Governor very often measures up to Tom Reed's definition of a statesman—a dead politician. His is a truly melancholy life. He can only achieve glory through the removal of his superior, and he, therefore, must brood much upon death. He holds away in the grim and solemn Senate chamber, the death house of most good legislation. He sits up at night with an actuary and figures on the Governor's chances of living through his term. He cannot ask the Governor, "How are you feeling to-day?" without receiving in return an expression of unpeakable hatred.

The "loot" must be content with their lot, it seems. Of them it might have been written:—

"Far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife,  
 Along the cool, sequestered vale of life,  
 They kept the noiseless tenor of their way."

Melancholy has indeed marked these funeral functionaries for her own. The Lieutenant-Governor is expected merely to maintain dignified obscurity. The Governors' Conference evidently does not propose to exhume him—in fact, that organization may be a combination in restraint of Lieutenant-Governors. The Governors, good, jovial, ruddy-cheeked souls, go on with their platters of rich beefsteak, all seemingly innocent of the fact that back home there is a forgotten dignitary who secretly hopes that there is plomine in the gubernatorial serving. But shall Governors inhumanity to Lieutenant-Governors always be? Why not a Lieutenant-Governors' conference?

## TIME FOR RETRENCHMENT.

The sum total of estimates for the cost of the Federal Government for the coming fiscal year is \$1,105,245,362. It is the last statement of what the annual expenses of the nation have been brought to through sixteen years of unbroken Republican administration. It is the final bill which the outgoing party presents to the taxpayers of the country.

The sum more than doubles when we annually called for under the last Democratic administration. The expense has not only been more than doubled within the short period, it has nearly doubled relatively to population. The expense account was little more than \$6 per capita at the beginning; now, by the estimate submitted to Congress, it is almost \$12 per capita.

The Federal tax burden upon each family has increased from \$31 to \$63. Can that go on in this period of increasing cost of living? The time for retrenchment and economy in earnest has come.

## On the Spur of the Moment.

By Roy K. Moulton.

### NORTH CAROLINA'S PAUPER COUNTIES.

State problems in the Old Dominion and in the Old North State seem to be almost identical. They have, in the fee system, in roads, in the Torrens system and in taxation, common issues. North Carolina, like Virginia, is burdened with "pauper counties," or counties which, through inefficient administration or evasion and violation of the law, fail to raise sufficient revenue to meet their running expenses, and rely upon the State to make good the deficit out of the public treasury. North Carolina has forty-five such counties, five less than half the whole number of counties within the State. These delinquent entities, in the opinion of the Charlotte Observer, constitute a "State scandal." The counties that are efficiently conducted are penalized in that they have to contribute to the support of the counties which are incompetently administered. The condition is just as inexcusable and unnecessary in North Carolina as it is in Virginia, for every county can and ought to pay its running expenses. The Wilmington Star proposes that, when a county cannot pay its own way, it should be annexed to a county which can convert it into a good public asset. It declares that it knows of some men who "would be willing to take over these counties and pay the State rent for them." That suggestion is extreme, but something ought to be done; if a county will not do its part, there ought to be means to compel it to do what is just and right in reference to other counties which are self-supporting. Not much longer should we permit tax-dodgers and law-evaders to shield themselves successfully behind a mere geographical division.

### WHAT A FARMER SHOULD KNOW.

A recent bulletin of the United States Department of Agriculture catalogues the modern requirements for success in farming. The tiller of the soil is warned that he will fail unless he is equipped with "considerable knowledge of chemistry, of bacteriology, of economic entomology, of the pathology and physiology of plants, of plant and animal breeding, of fungicides and insecticides, of the conservation of soil moisture, of botany, pomology, viticulture and horticulture, and certainly much concerning the practical handling and marketing of his products."

Enough there for a dozen university extension courses. How can one head hold all those "ologies" and still have room for the philosophy of plowing, the psychology of hog-feeding and the therapeutics of poke root and mule-dung? Farming is unquestionably a science, and if a farmer knows all he ought to know he ought to have a Ph. D. lashed to the mast.

### HIGHER FREIGHT RATES.

"Undoubtedly the railroads will apply to the Interstate Commerce Commission in the near future for permission to advance their freight rates. The tendency to take this action has been hastened by the recent award of the Engineers' Arbitration Board. Demands for higher wages by firemen and trainmen on Eastern carriers are also pending, and will probably be conceded on the same basis granted to the engineers. Such concessions in turn will be used by the employees of the Western and Southern Railroads for a demand for higher rates of pay. A 10 per cent increase was also recently obtained by Southern trainmen. The net result, therefore, will be a large increase to the railroads in their labor costs of operation, and this will constitute the main ground of their petition for an advance in freight charges."

The consideration of the matter by the Interstate Commerce Commission will be attended by interesting and valuable results. In denying a request made by the railroads for an advance in freight rates in 1910, the commission stated that it would freely reconsider its action when conditions should change, but it also declared that when the carriers again appeared they should give evidence of having been reasonably diligent in securing the maximum economies in their management. This would tend to show that the commission, in its future deliberations, will give more attention to the question of efficient management than it has done in the past. The recent disclosures relative to New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, and the fact that the commission is investigating that system, would also indicate that the financial practices of the railroads will receive a large degree of consideration. A demand for higher freight rates would also give an impetus to the movement for the physical valuation of the railroads. Some of the large carriers are reported to be favorable to such a procedure, and it does not seem possible to arrive at any determination of fair and reasonable charges until a valuation of railroad property is made on some sound basis.

The Automobile Association also learned that Richmond is the right 1913 model for conventions.

This session of Congress will be a billion dollar affair, but there is no telling yet how many billion words it will take.

There are three weeks left in which to do that Christmas shopping, but only about three days in which to do it early.

"Lonehorns to Battle Nazarets" is a headline in the Austin Statesman relative to a football game between the University of Texas and Arkansas. Team nicknames are getting to be really fierce.

## On the Spur of the Moment.

By Roy K. Moulton.

### The Difference.

When a pesson has got money, go wherever he may, it is: "Howdy, Misto Johnsing, won't you stop dis way?" Come right up an' jine de party, have a good eighn. And a little lobstah suppah an' a auto car."

Other times he may be achin' fo' a meal and smoke. But he never gets invited when he's clean dead broke.

When a pesson's got a bank roll dat would choke a hoss, All de people touch dey hata an' holler: "Howdy, boss." He kin drink an' play de races an' shoot craps a lot. An' de people merely murmur: "Dat's a way he's got." But dey won't stan' 't a minute fum a cheap skate smoke. Foh dey always got a hammah fo' de guy what's broke.

Now, if fo' a watahmillon should a pore man pine, An' should go an' lift it gently from de rich man's vine, He'd sit ninety days in prison or perhaps a year. Now de rich man steals a million as a financier, An' de folks dey make a hero of de old rich bloke; But it's different wid de pesson who am clean dead broke.

Now dere am a good time comin' fo' de ten-cent guys. An' de rich folks dey will learn it wid a deep surprise. If dey chance to go to Glory, dey'll see pore folks dere. All a-playin' haws an' wearin' of de crown so rare. An' de rich kin't buy no better ones fo' here's de joke. When it comes to flashin' money dey'll be all dead broke.

### According to Uncle Abner.

The things that a feller likes to eat and drink ain't good for him, and anyhow, they cost too much. When a man wears good clothes it's a cinch that somebody has to work for them, either himself or his wife.

If all the young gentlemen who hang around the pool rooms would go to work this life would be a lot easier for the rest of us. I never saw a postmaster who was against the government—at least, not until he got out of office.

Ame Hilliker's nose is so red that it shines his mustache. Ame was brought up in a drugstore county.

Luke Higgins has got the best automobile in the world, but he is willing to sell it at a sacrifice, as he wants to get a better one.

You can't always judge the neighbor by the clothes that hang out on the line.

No feller kin be classed as among the truly rich until he has been called to testify before the campaign fund investigating committee.

It is a darn sight easier to run an automobile than it is to buy one.

Most women worry more about whether the rubber plant is going to freeze than they do about who's going to be elected President.

After a feller has learned to run a horse, nothing like an automobile or a locomotive gives him the least trouble.

A feller who thinks that the horse is down and out ought to go and try to buy one.

Calve's Retirement.

What's this the paper tell about? Calve says that she is too stout to sing the modern opera stuff. And must retire? Gee, that's tough.

Since childhood we've been wont to pay Our hard-earned dough to hear Calve.

Our grandpa says he heard her, too. When he was young, and now she's through.

They say Calve has grown so fat She can't reach up to pin her hat. And can't live in a modern flat. And move around. But, what of that?

Suppose she does take lots of space. You cannot say that's a disgrace. I care not for her size, by jing! I go to hear the lady sing.

Our oldest institutions must Be kept a-going, friends, or bust. The greatest Carmen of the age We'll hear, though we enlarge the stage.

I want my grandsons to enjoy The voice I heard when but a boy. It is a burning shame, I say, To lose the fair but fat Calve.

## Voice of the People

Let Justice Be Done.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir.—In talking over the Hillville tragedy yesterday a minister said to me: "If I had my way about it I would liberate all of these Allens." Hearing similar remarks frequently regarding the pleas for commutation of sentence, and noting the powerful effort that is being made to that end, I am indeed amazed, and, but for the logical position of some of our papers, notably The Times-Dispatch, I don't know to what an extreme some people would go. It is with exceeding reluctance that any of us raise our voices against the Allens, but although it is a thankless task, it is none the less a duty to express dis-

## Abe Martin

West Virginia's Vote for Prohibition. To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir.—Considering the importance of the victory of the prohibition forces and the large majority they had in West Virginia, it seems to me too

## MAKING OUT THEIR CHRISTMAS LISTS.

By John T. McCutcheon.

(Copyright, 1912, By John T. McCutcheon.)



approval, to make protest, and sound a warning. As a man among fellows, and with nothing save a common interest at heart, I feel constrained to say that this effort, which militates the awfulness of the Hillville tragedy, has more than ordinary significance, and, believe me, has an evil foreboding. Let us turn to this, one of the darkest pages in Virginia's fair history, and since we naturally revolt at bloody detail, let us make a brief summary. An honored court and its officers mercilessly shot down a helpless juror and an innocent woman, also killed, others injured, a courthouse turned into a hospital and a morgue; mothers, widows and orphans weep and lament for those that were not, and the lawless lumination in the dust with its dead and dying representatives, a nation looks on in amazement and a State mourning, and will not be comforted. And how can we comfort our state? She has known invasion and punishment. She has faced invasion and met it with intrepid heart, but never before has she been thus gripped at the throat by her own sons. It is not within our province to know as to the provocation. We trust that all extenuating circumstances will have the attention they merit, but history proves the Hillville tragedy without precedent in the annals of crime. Then, to mitigate the seriousness of such a crime would be nothing less than crime itself, so please let us cease to offer puerile reasons for clemency, and for the sake of all that is true and just let us cease to lionize any one who has thus erred by using complimentary epithets, as some are doing even through the press.

Now, as to the merits of the question, we rejoice that we don't have to render the decision. That was reached and rendered by the usual competent sources—our courts—and the prisoners were given the benefit of every doubt. Now the matter rests with our Governor, and all question, "What will he do?" Some say: "We, the people, plead for commutation of sentence," assuming the name right to speak for the "we" who think differently. I say, "We don't plead thus." Knowing the case as imperfectly as we do, it is nothing less than an assumption to make this request of the Governor, who is so familiar with both the law and evidence. What we want is justice. We don't say this harshly, but very seriously. We want justice, not justice softened by mercy, but justice still, and although we would not say one word to wound any of those already sorely aggrieved, we sincerely hope that if commutation of sentence is granted to one or both of the Allens, it will have better effect for its existence than vacillating emotion and spasmodic feeling stirred by continued appeals to sympathy. Standing in the presence of death is an awful thing, but it is a reflection upon the dignity of mankind to be so before the wind. Standing in the very presence of death at Hillville, we would have constituted a mob for the desecration of the Allen law. Standing in the presence of death on Penitentiary Hill, we would again constitute a mob for liberation.

We sincerely hope that our Governor can find sufficient reason for commutating the sentence of Claude Allen, but we would not say, him misled by wishes and sympathies accredited to the people. For reasons that are obvious, we hope, too, that our Governor will continue to repress the Allens, so that the demands of justice may be impartially met. With justice to all the parties concerned and severity to none, wish the law to take its course. If the law is disregarded, oh what will our future be? Let the law have its true course, and some day, when feeling has been supplanted by reason, when our sympathies shall have attained breadth as well as depth, when Father Time shall have taken from the hourglass the parching sand of this present trying hour, I trust we shall all be able to say, "The wise thing was done," and may eternally sound the echo for whether in life or in death "may mercy attend the Allens!"

Gentleman.

West Virginia's Vote for Prohibition.

To the Editor of The Times-Dispatch: Sir.—Considering the importance of the victory of the prohibition forces and the large majority they had in West Virginia, it seems to me too

presented to them last winter. I believe the most of us now know where the directing agency is located that influenced those men to refuse the appeal of the people.

While I am not asking punishment on those men such as probably should be meted out to them, yet I appeal to our voters who wish our State to follow West Virginia to make sure that our next Senators shall express themselves one way or the other before the primaries come off.

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Carysbrook.

Little notice has been given to it in your columns.

I would like to call the attention of your readers to the very large majority, said to be something over 80,000, and to wonder if the old Mother State is willing to have the child set her such a fine example and not to follow in her footsteps.

It is passing strange that we did not first set the example to the child, and we would have done so but for the self-opinionated State Senators who refused the appeal of the people as

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## National State and City Bank Talks

While the banks in practically every large city enforce the rule which requires the giving of notice before money can be withdrawn from savings accounts, the banks of Richmond, under ordinary circumstances, do not require such notice.

This large, safe Bank, with capital and surplus of \$1,600,000, pays 3 per cent compound interest on savings deposits from \$1 upwards.

1111 East Main Street Richmond, Virginia

## REPORT OF THE CONDITION OF THE Merchants National Bank

AT RICHMOND, IN THE STATE OF VIRGINIA, AT THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS NOVEMBER 26, 1912.

### RESOURCES.

Loans and discounts	\$5,189,921 66
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